

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Temperatures were above normal across the State. Precipitation was near normal. High temperatures ranged from 79 degrees in The Dalles, down to 58 degrees in Crescent City, where the temperature never dipped below 40 degrees this week, the highest low temperature in Oregon. Bend, Christmas Valley, and Lorella shared the lowest temperature at 19 degrees. All but one of the forty-three stations reported measurable precipitation, although twenty-three had less than half an inch and only ten were ahead of average seasonal precipitation levels. All but fifteen stations had temperatures over 70 degrees. Temperatures fell below freezing for about half the stations, especially at high elevations in South Central Oregon.

Field Crops: Warmer weather was good for spring land preparation and planting. Very limited irrigation began with wells providing the irrigation water in the Klamath Basin area. In Central Oregon, recent precipitation has delayed planting of steckling carrots and coriander seed crops. In the Willamette Valley, Septoria was apparent on wheat and stripe rust found in some fields. Many red clover and perennial ryegrass fields were re-seeded in Washington County. Malheur County sugarbeet and onion planting were mostly done. Early Brassica seed crops were blooming.

Vegetables: Across the State vegetable producers focused on ground preparation as weather permitted. Green bean and sweet corn planting began.

Fruits and Nuts: Temperatures in Hood River dipped into critical ranges for developing fruit flower buds, with wide spread frost protection. Great weather for sweet cherry blossom in Wasco County. Winter damage to buds from a December freeze should ensure a lighter crop than last year's heavy crop. Some cherry blossoms were damaged from recent frost. Hazelnut orchards were spraying for Eastern Filbert Blight, and fertilization was applied to tree fruits. Most pears were about done blooming in southern Oregon.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Shipping of greenhouse vegetables and ornamentals as well as nursery trees and shrubs to retailers continued this past week.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Much of the State benefited from rain followed by warm temperatures, giving pasture growth a good start. Livestock were being turned out to spring pastures and rangeland, though many ranchers still needed to supplement feed to give their grasses a chance to develop. Lake County reported good water conditions on desert allotments. Spring calving and lambing continued, with the moms and babies looking to be in good shape.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 04/18/10

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	8	67	25
Subsoil	0	18	58	24

Crop Progress - Week Ending 04/18/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley planted	82	79	66	73
Barley emerged	56	39	43	48
Spring wheat planted	90	87	73	77
Spring wheat emerged	55	48	32	41
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.0	3.9	5.3	4.8

Crop Condition - Week Ending 04/18/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	5	42	42	11
Range and pasture	1	11	37	43	8

Western Oregon

COOS/CURRY: Forage growth is excellent this time of year. Warm temperatures, no fog, little wind, and little precipitation have created optimal forage growth conditions. Low temperatures were 3 degrees below the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos County) and 3 degrees above the 5-year average in southern Curry. High temperatures through the week were slightly below the 5-year average in Coos and slightly above in southern Curry. The dry weather over the weekend was much needed, but many river bottom pastures remain under standing water. Bandon (Coos and Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 34.36 degrees, 2.84 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 59.88 degrees, 1.04 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.45 inches, 0.8 inches below the 5-year (including drought in 2005) average for the week. Precipitation for the Current weather year (began 10/09) stands at 45.11 inches, 3.49 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through April is 52.85 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 41.47 degrees, 3.2 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 63.64 degrees, 1.01 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.84 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought in 2005) average of 1.46 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 66.98 inches, 3.72 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through April is 64.54 inches.

DOUGLAS: It was another week with over an inch of rain to keep farmers out of the fields. In some cases orchard operators were going into fields to get fungicide sprays on to protect crops from brown rot and other fungal diseases. Unfortunately they were doing considerable damage to their soils. No field cultivation was being done yet for spring planted crops.

HOOD RIVER: Variable but seasonable weather conditions prevailed through the week. Minimum temperatures dipped into critical ranges for developing fruit flower buds on April 14 with widespread frost protection. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom (WSU stage 7); Red Delicious apple at full pink to first bloom (WSU stages 6&7); Bing cherry at full bloom (WSU stage 8); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 3.

JACKSON: Some spring grain was still being planted. Orchards progressed nicely with slightly warmer weather. Most pears were about done blooming. Apples were in full bloom. Nights were warmer, and days were not too hot so bees were able to work on any blooms that were still there. Some onions and early cabbage were planted, but most work was getting ground preparation done. Greenhouses were busy getting spring vegetable and ornamental starts out to retail outlets. Nurseries were busy getting out spring planted trees and shrubs. More livestock was put out on spring pastures and many mother cows had babies at their sides. Also lots of baby lambs were in the fields. Rainfall was light, but enough to get pastures off to a good start. This has been a better week for outside work, so there was a lot of catch-up field work and planting being done. Lots of livestock carriers were moving about getting livestock out to nice green pastures. Temperatures were mild with no days below freezing.

JOSEPHINE: Temperatures were mild for the most part, all above freezing. Nights ranged from the 30s to 45 degrees. Daytime

temperatures ranged from the 40s to upper 50s. An inch and a half of rain fell for the week. There was a lot of activity preparing lawns and garden soil where possible. It was still too wet to till the soil in some areas; some still had standing water. Asparagus and mushrooms were doing well. The pollen count was very high.

LANE: It was a cold, wet week. There was some freeze damage to cherries and pears. Pollination - to be seen. Apple blossoms were turning pink. There was heavy brown rot blossom blight for cherries. Some tilling was going on but soils were generally too wet. Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB) sprays were applied to hazelnut trees. Fertilization of grass seed and tree fruits was applied. Blueberries were near bloom. Raspberries were showing root rot. Blackberries were showing December winter freeze. Farmers markets were slow with cold weather. The flag leaf has been emerging on the most mature winter wheat. Septoria was on all wheat and stripe rust found in some fields. Wet fields and poorly drained areas were stunted or lost. Fungicide treatments began. Aphid and Cereal Leaf Beetle (CLB) were at low levels. Early maturing grass varieties were heading and PGR and fungicide treatments began on grass for seed. Green bean and sweet corn plantings began.

LINN: Weather in the Willamette Valley has been on the wet side this past week. Farmers were out trying to finish up the fertilizing of grass crops and most of the spring planting was finished.

MARION: There was both rain and sun almost every day this week. Some heads were emerging on early maturing grasses. Winter Brassica seed crops were blooming. There was a lot of wet ground still out there.

YAMHILL: Two mornings early in the week had light frost. Overall, temperatures were mild and mostly dry with scattered showers. Farmers were seen spraying hazelnut orchards, ditches, and grass fields on dry days. Fruit trees were continuing to bloom. Conditions during cherry bloom favored development of brown rot blossom blight for untreated trees.

WASHINGTON: Most winter wheat had jointed. Fertilizer was applied and some signs of Septoria were apparent on lower leaves. Much of the early planted spring wheat and oats had emerged, although some was drowned out with recent rains and will have to be re-planted in the coming weeks. Alfalfa was growing rapidly, as was crimson clover, which should reach bloom in two or three weeks. Sclerotinia was beginning to appear in the crowns of some of the more developed fields. Many red clover and perennial ryegrass fields were re-seeded in the County because of poor emergence due to cold injury in December. Most grass seed crops were fertilized and managed for weeds. Average growth was occurring with warm temperatures. No sign of rust on grass seed at this point. Slug activity was moderate to heavy in many fields. Wheat in drained soils was doing very well, although some was drowned out. Gravenstien, crabapple and other varieties of apples were blooming. Started plants and vegetables were ready to set out as soon as weather permits. Nurseries were digging small trees, potting small shrubs, and shipping. Beef calves and buffalo looked healthy and vigorous, cattle in good shape. Temperatures ranged from a high of 67.6 degrees to a low of 31.5 degrees. Humidity ranged from 77 percent down to 64 percent. There were some localized showers totaling 0.2 inches on Wednesday.

Eastern Oregon

HARNEY: Cool conditions early in the week gave way to warmer than normal conditions late in the week and through the weekend. Rainfall mid-week and warmer temperatures provided for good grass growth on rangeland pastures. Many producers were turning cattle out on rangeland pastures. However, some supplemental feeding was still necessary. Water was being spread over some flood meadows.

JEFFERSON: Recent precipitation has added much needed mountain snowpack and delayed the anticipated early start to the irrigation season, but it also delayed planting of steckling carrots and coriander seed crops. Although initial indications looked positive, winter injury to carrot seed crops has proven to be above average.

KLAMATH: Very limited irrigation began with wells providing the irrigation water. Spring preparation work continued. Daytime highs during the week were in the upper 40s to low 50s. Nighttime temperatures were in the low 30's. The official announcement on water deliveries was still pending.

LAKE: Field work began in the northern part of the County. Cattle producers started turning out onto desert allotments where some producers reported good livestock water conditions.

MALHEUR: Malheur County received a fair amount of rain early in the week and then temperatures rose into the 70s with sunshine, allowing for a lot of soil and planting activity and good growing conditions. The water was release on Monday for farms to start

irrigating. High temperatures were about 10 to 15 degrees above normal for most of the week. Low temperatures were also slightly above normal. Sugarbeet and onion planting were mostly done. There was no significant frost damage to sugarbeets, and most locations had no frost this past week.

UNION/BAKER: Ranchers were just starting to turn out on lower elevation pastures as they turned green, but hot days and cold nights slowed pasture growth. Precipitation was spotty. Spring wheat was planted. Winter wheat was starting to grow with the warm weather. Soil moisture looked good.

WALLOWA: Moisture was about the same as last week. Snowpack was still around 71 percent and the drought monitor showed Abnormally Dry. Warmer weather was good for spring land preparation and planting but not good for moisture.

WASCO: Warmer spring weather prevailed all week. Winter wheat was doing well and putting on growth. Weed spraying continued on both no till stubble and wheat crops. Alfalfa fields were turning green. Cattle were being moved onto open pastures, but supplemental hay feeding continued to give pasture grasses a chance to develop. Weather was perfect this week for sweet cherry bloom, with mild temperatures and little wind. There was some winter damage to buds from a December freeze so there should not be such a heavy crop as last year. Some cherry blossoms were damaged from recent frost.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: April 18, 2010 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	38	62	50	+3	8	+1	0.77	-0.31	3	63.30	6.37	111	140
Bandon ⁸	34	60	48	-1	6	-3	0.45	-0.55	5	46.20	-5.63	89	154
Crescent City	40	58	50	+0	9	-12	1.24	0.20	4	51.68	-6.46	89	127
Florence	33	66	50	+2	12	-2	1.12	-0.10	4	69.26	2.95	104	128
North Bend	36	63	51	+2	16	+2	0.23	-0.84	2	47.13	-8.73	84	126
Tillamook	32	64	51	+4	17	+10	0.69	-0.70	3	51.75	-23.83	68	133
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	35	72	54	+5	27	+12	0.93	0.30	5	34.76	0.18	101	131
Corvallis	33	71	52	+3	18	+4	0.35	-0.23	4	35.11	-2.15	94	146
Detroit Lake ⁸	38	75	51	+9	14	+7	1.35	0.34	4	66.50	8.16	114	133
Eugene	34	71	53	+3	26	+5	0.44	-0.28	3	32.08	-11.09	74	118
Hillsboro	31	71	53	+4	21	+7	0.56	0.08	3	29.49	-2.75	91	121
McMinnville	32	70	53	+4	23	+6	0.70	0.13	4	22.37	-15.85	59	105
Portland	35	73	55	+5	36	+15	0.53	-0.03	4	26.22	-3.97	87	137
Salem	33	72	54	+6	28	+14	0.91	0.36	3	35.76	1.98	106	124
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	38	71	51	-2	17	-15	0.59	0.18	4	23.02	-5.02	82	115
Medford	38	78	53	+3	27	+0	0.58	0.30	3	10.62	-5.48	66	77
Roseburg	38	77	54	+4	34	+6	1.01	0.49	4	25.19	-3.40	88	122
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	30	68	48	+5	6	-1	0.24	-0.05	4	11.13	0.95	109	82
Echo ⁸	36	74	56	+5	41	+15	0.06	-0.08	2	6.11	-0.89	87	73
Heppner	34	68	51	+4	12	-2	0.12	-0.16	3	7.26	-2.75	73	66
Hermiston	30	75	55	+4	35	+9	0.03	-0.11	3	6.12	-0.88	87	61
Madras ⁸	31	70	48	+2	5	-10	0.85	0.71	2	7.06	-0.59	92	84
Moro	30	69	49	+4	8	-1	0.06	-0.15	2	10.64	1.90	122	73
Parkdale ⁸	29	70	49	+1	7	-12	0.24	-0.14	3	31.77	3.97	114	125
Pendleton	34	73	53	+4	27	+6	0.05	-0.19	1	7.56	-1.59	83	71
Prairie City ⁸	31	70	48	+2	5	-10	0.85	0.71	2	7.06	-0.59	92	84
The Dalles	37	79	57	+10	49	+35	0.19	-0.01	2	10.30	0.10	101	83
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	26	68	43	+2	-	-7	0.03	-0.18	2	8.77	-4.19	68	75
Bend	19	66	43	+0	1	-6	0.13	-0.01	1	8.10	-0.66	92	30
Burns	21	69	45	+3	1	-6	0.23	0.09	1	8.01	1.17	117	78
Christmas Valley ⁸	19	70	42	-4	-	-14	0.08	-0.06	2	3.34	-5.68	37	70
Klamath Falls	27	70	44	+0	-	-9	0.08	-0.09	3	4.33	-6.42	40	65
Klamath Falls ⁸	27	69	44	+0	-	-9	0.14	-0.03	4	5.48	-5.27	51	78
Lakeview	20	67	41	-3	-	-7	0.13	-0.15	3	6.49	-5.17	56	84
Lorella ⁸	19	72	42	-3	-	-9	0.08	-0.09	3	5.87	-4.88	55	74
Redmond	28	73	47	+4	3	-4	0.55	0.43	3	4.68	-1.21	79	57
Worden ⁸	25	70	44	-1	-	-9	0.09	-0.08	3	4.93	-5.82	46	65
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	25	71	45	+2	2	-5	0.28	0.09	2	4.84	-1.51	76	67
Joseph	28	71	46	+6	5	-2	0.17	-0.25	2	7.87	-10.55	43	66
La Grande	30	73	50	+4	10	-4	0.36	0.03	4	5.92	-6.40	48	63
Union	31	69	49	+4	10	-4	0.41	0.13	4	7.98	-0.53	94	63
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	33	75	52	+3	27	-1	0.22	0.08	4	7.27	-0.08	99	66
Rome	22	74	47	+1	4	-10	-	-0.14	-	6.50	1.35	126	57

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2010: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2009.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.